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(54) Anti-tip assembly for power wheelchair

(57) A power wheelchair includes an anti-tip assembly extending from the frame. The anti-tip assembly includes a plate (44) secured to the frame via a dampening mechanism (46). A first arm (52) extends from the plate (44) and is mounted thereto for a limited amount of relative movement. A ground engaging wheel (72) disposed on a distal end of the arm (52) is urged toward the ground surface by a biasing spring (68) interposed between the arm (52) and the plate (44). As the wheelchair begins to tip, anti-tip or resistive forces are generated initially by the biasing spring (68). This resisting force continues in a linear fashion until relative movement between the arm (52) and the plate (44) ceases. Thereafter, further resistive forces are provided by the dampener (46) as movement of the plate (44) toward the frame is resisted in a linear fashion by the dampener (46).

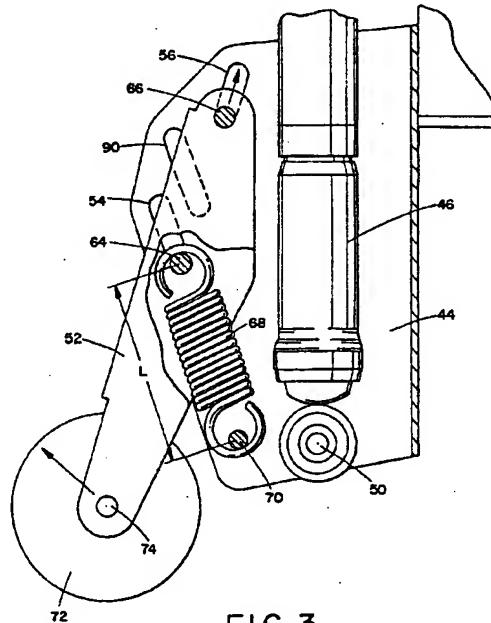


FIG. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 30 8024

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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A	US 5 435 404 A (GARIN III PAUL V) 25 July 1995 (1995-07-25) * column 8, line 16 - line 23; figures 8,11 *	1,8,14	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	15 October 1999	Baert, F	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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